# Fables About the Good Little Critics and the Big Drama

Writer Wins Admiration When Discussing Ibsen and Shaw, but Listeners Cool When He Mentions 'Getting Gerties Garter.'

### By LAWRENCE REAMER.

HE dramatic critic had become really popular in the white frame hotel on the New England seashore. He was amiable and never said a disagreeable thing about anybody. Probably he never thought one. At all events, he could talk to the lady from Chicago about the Drama League, and he was very illuminating on the subject of the Little Theatre movement to the spinster from Philadelphia and had some views on the subject of Rostand's new play about Don Juan and Bernard Shaw's "Methuselah." Of course, his knowledge of both works had been derived from reading reviews. But they were long reviews, so he could speak in detail about the two plays.

But at length the cultured man had to depart. His important duties summoned him back to town. There would be ressing need for his powers of appraisement and selection the next week. What would his first play be? All his admirers listened intently to know what weighty artistic matter would first occupy his trained attention. Would it be Rostand or Shaw or Shakespeare or maybe Ibsen or one of the Russians? Or could it possibly be Strindberg?

### Causes Drop in Temperature.

"And what will you be watching this time on Monday night?" was the question as the admiring group gathered about the learned man of letters

on Monday it's 'Getting Gertle's Garter.' " "I beg your pardon?" asked the Drama League specialist. "Miss Gertie

he observed, quite proud of the interest of the circle, "I think

who? I don't think I caught the name." The dramatic critic, unabashed, repeated it quite proudly.

"I don't think I know the play," was the severe answer of the spinster.

"We have never done it at our Little Theatre."

There was a drop in the temperature of adulation. The group had generally understood quite well what the name of the play was. Indeed, it is reasonable to suspect that some of them had already heard of it through the newspapers. But they never had connected it in their thoughts with the lofty critical and literary functions of the gentleman who had been compelled to end his vacation prematurely in order that he might arrive in time to do justice to that masterpiece of the contemporaneous drama "Getting Gertie's Garter."

"Maybe he had to do it," observed one of his greatest admirers, who used to discuss Ibsen with him, kittenishly, on the piazza. "But I personally would have been-well, a little more ashamed of it."

There is, however, a historical answer to all who may be disposed to think lightly of Mr. Woods or the critic or the play. Honi soit qui mal y

The dramatic critic glanced at his watch at 9 o'clock last Monday night. "I've given this play twenty minutes now," he observed. "But I am disposed to be generous. I am going to give it ten more, making in all half an hour. If there is no improvement then-basta.'

Presumably, there was to the critic's mind no indication of betterment Fen minutes later he rose from his seat on the aisle and slipped out of the

walk. "Unless a play shows some sign of merit within the first half hour, just now engaged in writing him a or unless it is the work of a man who has done something in the past, I play with a big tank scene. But it is depart after the first twenty minutes."

Of course, he writes for a magazine and it makes no difference nor is it the old fashioned tank drame whether he sticks about or not. But the newspaper critic, who is there to in which the heroine sprang into the make in the first place a report of the proceedings for his paper, could not water to be dragged out by the hero. everying this privilege. It is perfectly true that the play in question did not. It is not in the least that kind of a deserve a minute more of the critic's time than it got. He was indeed generous to devote education, experience and taste to the appraisal of such a piece of work during a period of thirty minutes. Only those whose duties Theatre he has been, as they say on

took them to this theatre to make a report of what happened there had any need of waiting longer.

The same amount of attention is deserved by many other plays that find their way to the stage. To focus any intelligence or critical considera
Mr. Woods dreads the musical play as tion on them is to waste time and thought. Those managers who are, especially after a failure, likely to protest against any criticism of their ofterings and declare that they would much prefer to have merely reportorial through descriptions of first nights are not, after all, so far from the right point of view. Pointing out the motion picture actresses in the audience, naming the song writers, mentioning the unemployed players in orchestra seats and counting the calls after the second act—this is usually quite as worth while as criticising the play. It is, as a literary task, quite as much dignifled as making an estimate of the dramatic, literary and technical skill of happy until he gets it. the average play that comes before the New York public.

# Mrs. Elinor Glyn Predicts New Era

## Says Writers Must Deal With Stage Adventuress Plays New Subtleties Instead of the

Obvious.

and other novels, is now in California sional affairs of Miss Merle Maddern writing original scenarios for Para- that cast her for the role of the reformmount. Her first photoplay, "The Great ing aunt in "Nice People" at the Klaw Moment," with Gioria Swanson in the Theatre. For Miss Maddern has destar role, will be at the Rivoll this voted much of her career to portrayals

Moment," with Gloria Swanson in the star role, will be at the Rivoll this week.

"Through the medium of the American people a new era in motion piotures will be attained," says the noted novelist. "I believe, given the opportunity, they will appreciate a higher motive than the average melodrama thrill. Aiready they are satiated with the commonplace and realize the possibilities of the screen drama. Art and commercialism will no longer war."

In fact, so keen was Mrs. Glyn to have the filming of her first photoplay perfect that she personally supervised the scenes and cooperated with Director Sam Wood and Monte Katterjohn, the scenarist, in every phase of the production. She says:

"The photoplaywright snould understand construction and all elements which so toward the building of his story, or inevitably it will prove unconvening. After thoroughly mantering the technique he should assist in its production. Never shall I torget the agony of witnessing the first picture revision of one of my novels. I had no connection with the filming of it, and when I went to see what had been accomplished I witnessed only a mutilated body from which the soul had been swept away.

"The photoplaywright of the future will learn to deal in subtleties; the average present story is wholly obvious. Titles, too, will play a large part in the future photoplay, for through the medium of the title the psychology of action can be reached."

The attage of the work. Her pleat that she wanted to be a "good word that she wanted to be a "good word. Her play the demolished until Miss Maddern had been accomplished in the mannant of the stage adventuress's the first picture revision of one of my novels. I had no connection with the filming of it, and when I went to see what had been accomplished I witnessed only a mutilated body from which the soul had been well as the production of the different production. When I went to see what had been accomplished I witnessed only a mutilated body from which the soul had been accomplished I witnessed only a

# Miss Maddern of Vampire Role Is for Movie Plays. Now a Reformer

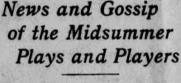
Type of Woman in 'Nice People.'







MISS WHITE MARGIE SNAPSHOTS of 1921 HIMES "THE WHIRL OF NEW YORK" WINTER GARDEN



A. H. Woods Can't Just Get Those Bathing Girls Out of His Mind.

pere, stuck. So Mr. Woods will have his new farce next winter with bath-ing girls in it and a tank in it and the bathing girls in the tank. And the indications are that he will not be

## Notes of Famous Plays.

Frank Craven, who has acted in all his plays but "Spite Corner," says he has had the idea of the drama in his mind ever since he, as a little boy, passed the Academy of Music with his mother. She showed him a small house across from the theatre which spoiled the site of a larger structure. The owner, he was told in answer to his childish inquiry, would not sell for spite.

If David Wark Griffith hurries to Paris he can see D'Ennery's "The Two Orphans" on its native heath. The drama has just been revived at the Porte St. Martin Theatre, half a century after its first production.

Mrs. Annie Nathan Meyer's three act drama "The District Attorney" has just been acted by the Bonstelle stock company in Buffalo. Its heroins is the District Attorney.

## Hard to Find Room.

In spite of the supposedly lukewarm preparation for the approaching dramatic season, it is as difficult to find rehearsal separation for the approaching dramatic season, it is as difficult to find rehearsal room in New York as it always has been at this time of the year. Of course every theatre has three dramatic or musical companies at the least rehearsing on the stage, in the balcony or in the lobby—if the theatre happens to possess such an old fashioned bit of architecture—and in addition Lyric Hall and all the rest of these rehearsal rooms are taken up all day. Experts say that the rentals charged by the hour this year are higher than ever; so the slump has not at least begun to throw its shadow so far shead of it.

up all day. Experts say that the rentals charged by the hour this year are higher than ever; so the simp has not a to ground floor dressins rooms for chorus a head of it.

The Bradys Are Comming.

William A. Brady has added another member of the family to his staff at the fluxes, a well established star now-days, both on the stare and in the like of which has not less a mere apart. The stare and in the family to go to Lough to look after the family to go to Lough to look after the family to go. O". Grace George, who is family "0. o". Grace George, who is Mrs. Brady, acts whenever a plant of the family to the business staff of the these forms the business staff of the theory of the publicity of the Brady, extremely a staff of the theory of the publicity of the Brady enterprises and began is a present in charge of the publicity of the Brady enterprises and began is a present in charge of the family to enter the profession is the son of Mrs. Brady and his second wife (Miss George) and is a half-brother of Alic.

Miss Manners Obliges.

When she heard that managers were not going to have a green room to dear the world. Is spending the summer at Steeplechase, a spending the summer at Steeplechase, and the production for the world and other member of the family to go to Lough to look after the correct production and the free circus. Since a green room telesa are green room telesa are green room to the nontreast with the fluxes, as well established star now-days, both on the stare and in the fluxes are and in the fluxes are and the free circus. Since a green room telesa are green room telesa are green room telesa are green room telesa are green room the fluxes in which they may be gind the uncontrolled the control of the control of the control of the stare and the free circus. Since a green room telesa are green room to the stare and the free circus. Since a green room telesa are green room to the new plays the family to go to Lough the control of the control



ter," a new farce by Wilson Collison and Avery Hopwood. Haze Dawn, Walter Jones and Dorothy Mackaye are the featured players and the cast includes also Adele Rolland, Louis Kimball, Lorin Raker Donald MacDonald, Eleanor Dawn and Ivan Miller. The play is in

on account of the h. c. of travel and other economic difficulties there might be less entertainment for the cities outside New York than there had been in the past, Miss Jane Manners felt too bad about it. But she has expressed herself to The New York Herald as willing to sacrifice herself completely in order to avert such a tragedy. She has a large repertoire of plays in which she acts every character and does it so well, she admits, that the public outside New York will have much more fun listening to her than to a No. Four road company entirely made up of dramatic school graduates. Miss Manners includes in her repertoire many of the best known plays of the day. With only her manager, she is not much more expense to transport than a film.

## The Green Room Again.

The new Carroll Theatre, at Seventh

Screen Shadows

pected that Mary's husband.
Doug, in view of his wild uterances on their soil a year ago, wou'd actually thrust "The Three Musketeers" on the screen. Accordingly, they have themselves produced another of their film versions of Dumas's masterpiece to prove they have thonly true right to swashbuckling.

It is, of course, a serial, for the immortal romance could no more be compressed into an ordinary five reel feature in the Sister Republic than the Board of Estimate could be restricted to half an hour's oratory. The role of D'Artagnan, essayed here by Fairbanks, is to be played in the French production by M. Aime Simon-Girard, who is really quite a sweet faced young man. He has longer and more elegant locks than our Doug, but his moustache is not so fetching an object for the ladies to coo over. It is more of the droopy, affalfa style, while Doug's is of the north and south, weather vane variety.

The Galile version will be distributed in October, curiously enough, just about the time that Doug's product will be ready to make a stab in the dark. As Mary's production of "Little Lord Fauntheroy" will probably have the curls completed for the market about that time likewise, both the pair will then be free to make their next royal progress to Europe. Consequently it is now reported that the pligrimage will take place in October, having been postponed from early this year, when it was originally planned to have the Continent look them over.

Charlie Chaplin, it is also considered likely, will make the grand tour with them and receive homage from 9 to 6 defined and receive homage from 9 to 6 defice an audicions of the concentration of the passent Stadium orchestra. Carpany, Mr. Dubinsky leads the second violins. A first trumpeter, was brought from the chicago Symphony Orchestra. William Hebs. first trumpeter, was brought from the orner in the condition of the passent Stadium orchestra. William Hebs. first trumpeter, was brought from the orchest and receive homage from 9 to 6 decrease and audicion of the condition of t

Charlie Chaplin, it is also considered likely, will make the grand tour with them and receive homage from 9 to 6 daily, unless detained in Los Angeles by a pressing matrimonial engalement. However, there's no reason why this important second event in his career shouldn't be accomplished while in

MISS ROSE DONER of the NEW BRIGHTON.

Jane Tell, Prima Donna,

David Kirkland, motion picture director, is having the good fortune of a Russian grand duke at the current rate of exchange between the Bolshevild and the Muscovite nobility. He and Lloyd Ingraham, who are old chums, had planned for some time to have a good soul rousing bachelor party at Kirkland's ranch in California, but somehow the fates had always blackballed the idea rudely. Ingraham had always been acting or Kirkland directing.

A short time ago, however, Ingraham had a holiday when Kirkland was at rest at his ranch. So he started for the director's corral, but just then fate slipped the rollers under the plan again. A film company telegraphed to Kirkland to

company telegraphed to Kirkland to come immediately to Los Angeles to produce a picture, and the two friends passed each other like a couple of strange dogs en route. And when Ingraham drove up to the ranch it gave him such a warm welcome that it purst into flames.

him such a warm welcome that it purst into flames.

When Ingraham teetered back to Les Angeles, hopeful of at last meeting Kirkland there, even if he did have to break it to him gently, he found that the director was well out in the ocean hunting sharks, for a shark is always a good asset to a picture.

After getting a shark to pose for his picture out in the ocean he was captured alive, for it was intended to take it ashore and have it cavort in a tank for the closeup thrills. When Kirkland consulted with the fishing experts as to whether the shark could be taken all the distance to land without killing it they answered:

kin, Violinist, and Miss the distance to land without killing it they answered:
"Sure! You can't kill a shark—'ceptin' it's willin.'"

So the captive was carefully bedded down on the deck, and the yacht made all speed to get the shore while the shark still had strength to bite a star's week in Barrie's playlet, "The left but in the shark still had strength to bite a star's of those persons who are always seeking of those persons who are always seeking the shark still had strength to be shark still had strength to bite a star's shark still had strength to be s

### Major R. D. Whytock, Writer, Turns Actor

Major Ross D. Whytock, newspaper reporter and writer of motion pictures, has turned actor. He is the author of a series of two reel pictures entitled "Tales of the Tenements," which are being made by Director William P. Burt for the Putnam Popular Productions.

It was Director Burt's idea to have Major Whytock appear on the screen and in prologues to the pictures the Major as a reporter is seen entering a newspaper office and writing a story. The picture them fades out and upon the screen is enacted the story the reporter is writing. Director Burt, who was formerly with Pathe, has completed four of a series of twenty pictures.

## Stadium Concerts Enter Second Phase Under Mr. Herbert

New Conductor Will Turn Soloist Tuesday Night and Play 'Cello.

succeeding Henry Handley at the conductor's desk. Mr. Hadley ended his

Prelude to act III. "Natom

Irish rhapsody, "Erin, O Erit
Overture, "Mie. Modiste."
"When You're Away" from "The Or
'Celle solo, Mr. Herbert.
Indian Summer (an American)
Fantasy from the Irish opera "I
WEDNESDAY.
Symphony No. 5 in E minor. Tch
Rakoczy March.

Einel Barrymor returns to the Palace for a week in Barrie's playlet. The triver Pound Look." as the finale of the Palace for a week in Barrie's playlet. The triver Pound Look." as the finale of the Palace for a week in Barrie's playlet. The triver Pound Look." as the finale of the Palace for a week in Barrie's playlet. The triver Pound Look." as the finale of the Palace for a week in Barrie's playlet. The triver Pound Look." as the finale of the particular that the proper matter of the Botton Symphony Orchemater of the Botton Sympho

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